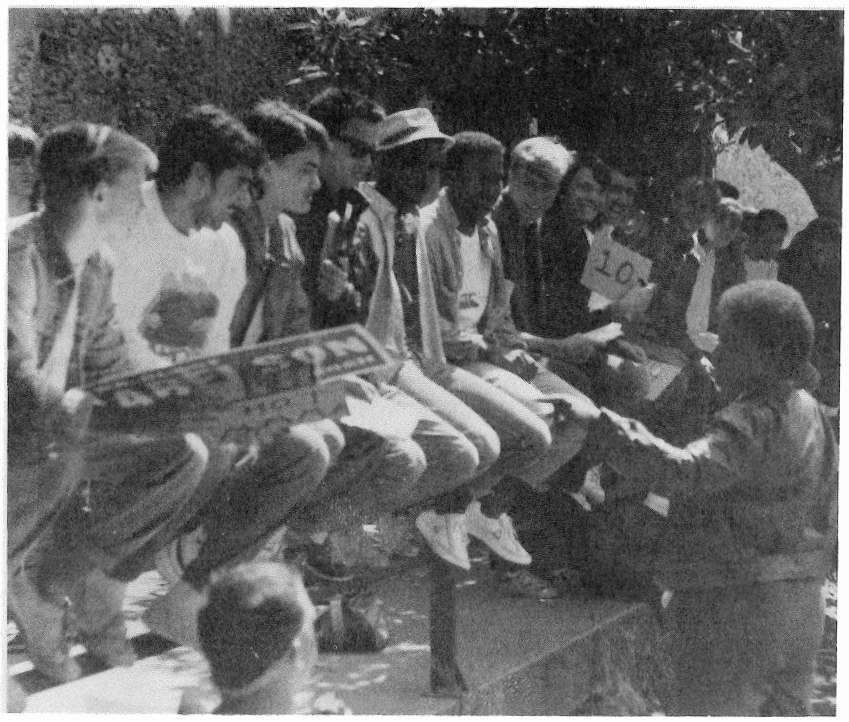
El Caballero

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL | SEPTEMBER 26, 1986 | NUMBER 1 | VOLUME LXIX



Mrs. Blackman gives low score to Freshman Beauty Contest.

Hazers beware!

Stiffer penalties ahead

by Jeffrey Pryde

The El Cerrito administration has done away with hazing by stiffening the penalty for the action.

The new policy simply states that if you haze someone, you are suspended. The old policy gave the person warnings before stiffer action was taken. According to Vice-Principal Tim Shaw the number of hazing incidents has declined but some hazing is still taking place.

None of this year's hazing incidents have been serious or as bad as years past. Shaw recalls that in the past one student had a finger broken because of a hazing incident. El Cerrito administration is trying to keep hazing controlled because the worst effect from hazing is not the torn clothes, but it is the humiliation that goes along with hazing.

Senior Jose Guerrero commented "hazing, it's kind of like a tradition, which is enjoyed because it happened to all of us, so the seniors feel it's their turn for a little fun." Jose also stressed "some of those freshmen really ask for it."

"It is the lowest and lowsome for someone who is physically bigger to pick on someone who is smaller, nervous and scared." says Mrs. Melhorn, a freshmen English teacher.

One member of the student body says "Hazing will always exist within the high school system because not only is it a tradition but it is expected by the freshmen".

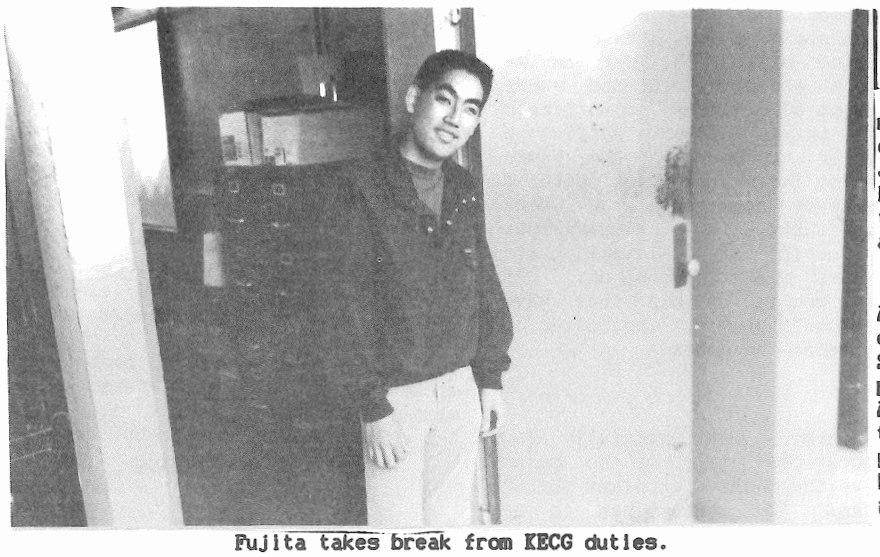
KECG Airs With New Format

KECG, the El Cerrito High school radio station will feature some changes this year including a new format and fresh crew of broadcasters.

In previous years, KECG has been basically soul oriented. But this year, things will be different. "This year with our new staff of broadcasters we're going to have a greater variety of music that everybody was looking for last year", said Scott Fujita, program director. The types of music that will be aired this year will be in the area of soul, slow, rock, heavy-metal, beat, top-40, and "hip hop".

Fujita feels that the ability of the staff to take responsibility looks promising. "Last year, we had a whole bunch of different problems such as things becoming broken very often. We even had an incident in which something was stolen. Hopefully, this year, with our new staff, there will be more responsibility and less problems."

Everybody who broadcasts has a responsibility, such as chief engineer, public service announcer and even janitor.



Fujita takes break from KECG duties.

This year's broadcasting program will feature a few specials. "We're hoping to broadcast football games and sporting events", says Fujita, "and we also are hoping to have, at least once a month, a dance night on which we would extend our broadcasting time to 10:00 or 10:30 instead of the usual 7:00 " year will be Aaron Fabun, Brian Jay, Mark Gordon, Scott Fujita, and Welman Wong. KECG broadcasts MondaY through Friday from 8:00 AM to 9:20 AM and from 11:35 AM to 12:25 PM. The prime time show will be from 2:30 or 3:30 PM to 7:00 PM.

So with the new changes, KECG swings into yet another year at ECHS. Referring to the new changes, Fujita says, "I feel the year will go smoother with less 'technical difficulties'."

ECHS Undergoes Staff Changes

by Tyler Wong and Charan Johl

El Cerrito High School faces many new staff changes this year, due to the closures of Adams Junior High and Downer Junior High. Many administrators were transferred to different schools and positions because of this.

Mrs. Calhoun, the new Administrative Vice-Principal, comes from Adams Junior High School where she held the same position. Mr. Boles, former Administrative Vice-Principal at this school, took over the position of Dean along with Mrs. Harrari who returns after a year as Kennedy High's Vice-Principal.

Also, 11 teachers have gone, and ten new ones have arrived. Of the teachers leaving, Ted Beck, Ruth Protter, and Hella Roubiceck retired. Luigi Giovannoni, Christina Matthes, Lisa Parenti, Harriet Paul-Krobbe, Ron Rammer, and William Riggan moved on to other schools. Irvin Janeiro took a leave.

The new teachers will fill the positions.

In the English Department the

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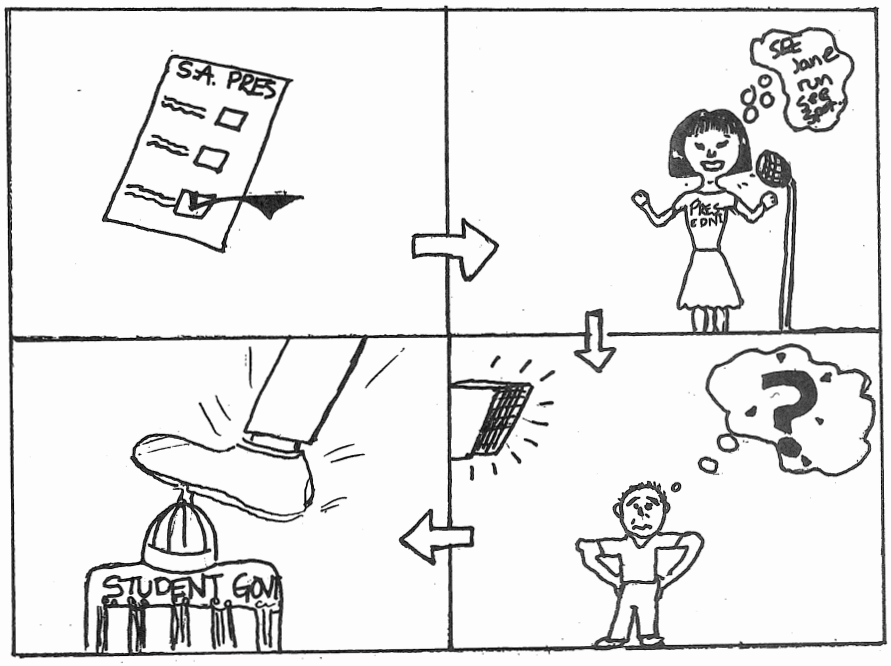
Trouble in Washington E.C.

by Andrew M. Kaplan



There is a cancer growing in our school. A dark force, growing steadily each day, blocking normal, useful functions; getting in the way. It's the Student Association.

Many of the freshmen may not know that we have a Student Association. They shouldn't worry. I took a poll, and it seems that nobody knows what the SA is supposed to do anyway, not even its officers. It's actually funny, all these students vying for positions like SA president without anyone having the slightest idea what the SA president is actually supposed to do. The SA could be a powerful force if they organized themselves properly. Perhaps if the student body knew what they could do, they could pressure the SA into organizing. Unfortunately, while most students know that the SA isn't doing anything worthwhile, they don't know that it can. So the students don't care.

That is one of the SA's major problems: nobody knows what they are supposed to be doing. Believe it or not, there is a student constitution that actually spells all these duties and responsibilities. It's just a shame that nobody seems to have bothered to look at it for over ten years. That's right, it has been ten years since it has been updated. This makes even less sense when you read that it is to be revised every two years, and the revisions are to be agreed upon by the student body. I sure had a good time agreeing to those revisions. Didn't you?

There is another provision of the constitution that, had the SA used some common sense, they would not have ignored. I assume that everyone remembers how every year our history or English classes elect a pair of students to the student legislature? Did you ever wonder what happened to those people? I did. Turns out these people were our representatives in the student legislature. Just like senators.

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So what can be done to improve the situation? Fortunately for the SA, something with so much wrong with it can try almost anything. One thing that they must do almost immediately is read the damn constitution. Those in the SA who don't do anything because they think they have no power might be surprised.

Secondly, they have to let us students know what is going on. It should by no means be our responsibility to attend every meeting of the SA, just as we aren't expected to attend every meeting of Congress. SA officers have talked about putting a regular column in the paper telling their plans, but nothing has ever come of it. More importantly, legislature representatives must tell their classes what is going on. If they won't, then they have absolutely no right whatsoever to represent the class.

These pitifully few suggestions will by no means solve the massive problems the SA faces. But a start has to be made sometime, and it's about time someone did something.

Late transfers hurting grades

by Josh Merrit

There is a problem this year at El Cerrito High because some students are missing as much as a week or more of their classes because of late transfers into and out of classes. These students could miss vital information which might affect their grades during the quarter.

The current system being used to handle these transfers, consisting of first filling out a transfer application and then seeing a counselor who decides whether or not the transfer is granted, seems to work sufficiently. But, this system is tailored mainly to correct the minimal programing mistakes made by the school, such as a French student being put into a Spanish class or the like. The system is not intended for and should not have to handle the extra number of people who want to transfer simply because they "don't like" the class they've signed up for or because they don't think they'll like the teacher. These types of applications flood the system and can often cause a more important applicant to be delayed while a less important one is being dealt with.

The solution for this problem is relatively simple. First of all, students should be encouraged to not take choosing their classes lightly when being programed for the next year. Secondly, students who simply don't like their teacher or the class they get into should not even be considered for transfers unless both the teacher and the student agree on it. This would force the student to discuss any problems he or she has with the class and, hopefully, work them out with the teacher. This would also seperate the people who have had previous problems with a certain teacher from those who don't really even know the teacher they "don't like."

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Amerika's Newly Found Freedom ?

by Jef Bekes

Last spring, the El Cerrito Gospel Choir performed a concert during lunch hour. Most of the students seemed to enjoy the concert, myself included, but one thing kept bothering me throughout the performance- since gospel music is, according to Webster's New World Dictionary, a form of evangelism, would that give other groups the right to advocate their ideas on our campus? For example, could a group of Satanists have a concert or rally on our campus, or, for that matter, could Nazi's have a rally on our campus?

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not satanic and most definitely not a Nazi, and I'm not out to get the Gospel Choir. But, what I am is curious as to how the decsisions are made as to whether a group has the right to advocate their ideas on our campus. It is most certainly not the students, although we are the ones that are directly affected. Not once was I asked how I would feel if the Gospel Choir had an open concert during our lunch hour. But, if they have the right to, who or what says that Nazis or Satanists could or could not express themselves to the student body?

Recently, a fellow student and I spoke with one of the administrators about the possibilities of a Nazi rally on campus. What it basically came down to Was this; if a group wished to hold an assembly of some sort on campus, and the administration felt that it was too controversial, the idea would be sent to the school board for them to decide. How can the school board decide what is in the best interest of the students? Each year the military sends recruiters on campus to try to get kids to enlist in the service. To me, this is not in my best interest, let alone the whole student body, but apparently the school board thinks it is. Would the school board let us hand out anti-war or anti-military pamphlets to the students?

This country was founded on the ideas of freedom of speech and freedom of religion, or no religion for that matter, and if these freedoms are taken away from us, we might as well be living in a totalitarian society.

Both the Gospel choir and the military are a more conservative with their ideas than some of the other groups mentioned. but how can the powers that be say group A has the right to speak on campus while group B cannot?

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Quality Teachers: But Who Decides?

by Jamie Jung

Since students are evaluated frequently concerning their performance in the classroom, it should only be right for teachers to also be evaluated more frequently and consistantly than they are now. Teacher Reviews are supposedly used to insure the quality of instruction. However, the problem with Teacher Reviews is that they are often given too late or not frequently enough to assure that the standard and quality of education is maintained.

The worst thing about Teacher Reviews is the fact that sometimes they are given late. They should be scheduled for around November, but in some cases, they have slipped by until March. November is a good time to have Teacher Reviews because it is early enough in the year so that if there are bad teachers, they can be dealt with early, when they would not do so much damage to the students.

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Each is guaranteed that right in the First Amendment, and the stripping of that right would bring us a step closer to a despotic rule. Perhaps it would be better for the students to decide what is appropriate for our campus. That way, if enough people felt strongly for or against something, they would have the power to make that decision. Giving students more say in what directly affects them would make for a more content student body.

Another bad thing about reviews is that many of them are cancelled because the administrators have "an emergency". One teacher told me, " A dean who was reviewing me said that Teacher Reviews are not important; more of a formality." Maybe because reviews are considered a formality, administrators do not take them as seriously as they should.

In my opinion a, more effective system is that of the Southern California Lahabra District. Their system uses outside consultants, as compared to the RUSD's system Which uses administrators. The consultants are also experts in the subject they are reviewing. A teacher I asked said, "Administrators usually do not have the time and expertise to really judge teachers so that it makes a difference in teaching." Another good thing about the Lahabra District's system is that if they find a teacher that is not doing so well, they will give the teacher an opportunity to learn their skill better -- they give the teacher a paid leave to take courses. Because of that, the Lahabra District's teachers feel more supported than judged by Teacher Reviews.

by Chris Eng

At this very moment, there are many concerned parent groups seeking to rate and censor many heavy-metal records. Song lyrics that contain so-called satanic, sexual, or violent messages are targeted by these groups. They want the power to ban all records they find "offensive"

They want to: 1) Place "warning" stickers on all of these albums stating that the record is of a satanic or an offensive nature. 2) Print all of the lyrics on the back cover of the album. 3) Censoring cover art that they believe may offend someone.

First, "warning" stickers are not necessary because the record buyers, when looking for an album, know exactly what they're buying and what they contain.

It's not likely the consumer will purchase a record for himself, and not know what it contains or what it's about. Secondly, almost all of these albums have lyrics included on a seperate sheet inside. The record companies have better things to do with the back cover, like showing the band's picture. Last, cover art serves the purpose of expressing the bands ideas.

These censorship groups believe that listening to a song that mentions "Satan" or the devil will turn their children into baby-killing devil worshippers, and songs that talk about violence will undoubtedly change their sons or daughters into violent criminals. That is just not true. Music groups are not out to turn people into Satanists or rapists. They are out only to entertain.

Lyrics express the views of the band, and the band has the right to express their views. Everyone has the right to free speech, or in this case, the right to sing about anything he wishes. The right to free thought is guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, which these censoring groups are trying to ignore.

These groups have already pressured many states to ban the sales of records they find "offensive". For example, the S.O.D. album title track "Speak English Or Die" has been taken from the shelves in Washington D.C., Texas, and the entire country of Canada. The song deals with immigrants getting jobs in America, and without knowing how to comprehend English. The concerened parents

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Full of pep & rearin' to go!

By Trina Tucker

Ever wonder what happened to the cheerleaders last year? Did they all graduate? Did they all catch colds from their short skirts? Did they all run of with the football hunks? Well, maybe the old ones did, but there is a new 1986-87 squad waiting to lavish the school in spirit.

The saga began on July 25 and lasted through July 29. During these four days, our nervous young cheerleaders travelled to the USA sports camp in Santa Cruz to become the wild spirit leaders we are now proud to display. While there, they met and exchanged information and ideas with other cheerleaders from all over the country.

Cheerleaders practice for big game.

At this camp, the directors, who were all "young and gorgeous bachelors", taught them all six routines that they will all use during the football season, embellishing them with their own moves. They are, however, on their own for basketball season.

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Our new squad came home with the two highest awards given by the USA camp, The Unity Award and The Spirit Stick, setting a new record for not only El Cerrito High, but also for the USA Sports Camp. In addition, the pommers brought home an excellent pennant for their own original dance.

The pommers include seniors: Mia Settles (head), Katrina Hamilton, Kimaree McDonald, Ada Tsui, and sophomore Melanie Forcha. Not to be outdone, the cheerleaders came home with a superior trophy for their original cheer. The cheerleaders include seniors: LaShandra Green, Louise Yokoi, juniors Erin Shiba, Inga Malveaux, and sophomores Millie Grand and Corliss Vance (head).

Is cheerleading all that glamorous? Says head pommer Mia Settles, "No! It's all hard work!" Why, then, do they become cheerleaders? "Simple. For the glory of being a cheerleader, being the popular ones. You have a place in your school and everyone knows you." When asked what the hardships of being a cheerleader are, the unanimous answer was the hard work. What can be hard about smiling and looking beautiful during the games and knowing the football players by name? "Sometimes after working really hard on a routine, the crowd doesn't respond and you have to act like it doesn't bother you; you have to keep a smile on your face no matter how much you want to cry." When asked what part sponsor Ms. Burgess plays in this drama, Mia says, "She works us hard. We work out with her period 7 dance class to keep in shape, then we practice on our own until 4:30." Does all the hard work come to good use? Burgess says, "If you work hard at it, it has to show and you'll look perfect."

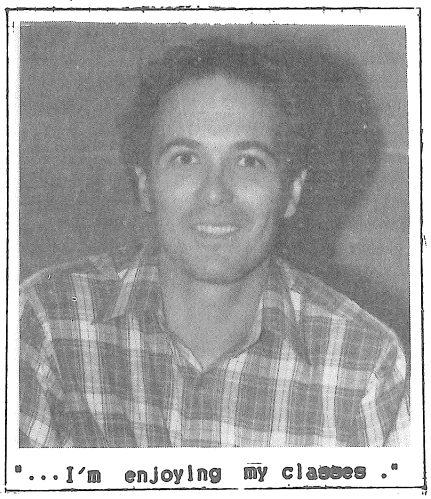
Math Dept. gets teachers

by Jessica Baker

This year E.C.H.S. welcomes two new teachers to it's Math Department. Mr. Huber and Ms Hataye. Both are very enthusiastic about the upcoming school year.

The first of the two, Huber, is currently teaching math, one class of English, and if that is not enough, he will also be the new Gaucho basketball coach for the 1986-87 season. He is a graduate of Humboldt State with a major in Physical Education and a minor in math. After graduating from college, Mr.Huber taught at Salesian's High School in Richmond for five years. While at Salesians, he was the basketball coach, a math teacher, and for two years, an English teacher.

According to Huber, "The faculty has been friendly, very



"...I'm enjoying my classes."

receptive, just great. My students have been good, they have not caused any problems, and I'm enjoying my classes."

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Officers get going

by Dmitri Mehlhorn

This year's class presidents are full of hope for the coming year. Ranging in personality from mellow to aggressive to shy, all three are bursting with enthusiasm for the coming year.

Both Marie Amoore, Junior Class President, and Jose Guerrero, Senior Class President, are already planning dances to be held on yachts.

Jose's dance, the Bay Cruise, will either be on October 11th or 18th. Marie wants her Junior Prom on a yacht, but only if the Junior Class can raise enough money.

The Sophomore Class President, Jodie Nakamura, has many fundraising ideas, as do Jose and Marie. The Senior Potluck was held on Wednesday the 17th, and the sophomores are having theirs later in the year.

The sophomores are also planning their float, flower sales, and other fundraisers. Jodie's shyness won't prevent her from having a successful term and a productive year.

Marie, on the other hand, is aggressive, and she doesn't plan on letting the juniors "sit on their butts." Jose is a bit more mellow, but he, too, is going to put his class to work. It promises to be a productive year.

Escape to UCSD

by Leslie Soo

What is college like? Are the classes hard? What's dorm life like? This summer I answered all my college questions and more. How? by attending the University of California at San Diego.

I had always known what a college looks like because Cal Berkeley is so close, but I had no idea about the real educational and social aspects. My classes were Psychology, Marine Biology, and I like to say a class called Life too.

You should also learn how to study while :1) the neighbors and your radio are both blasting,2) people are walking in your apartment looking for food, 3) people asking you questions like,"How do you use the washer and dryer?",4) someone on the phone talking to Mom,5) heavy thumps are made upstairs by an indoors basketball game. As you can see, it is hard to study in a dorm. It's even harder to study because in college you're usually not in class Monday through Friday like in high school.

Because I have no siblings, living with 3 other girls in a apartment was quite an experience. I had to hound down one of my roomates to wash the dishes, otherwise I'd have to do them-AGAIN. Learning how to cook is something you should know before leaving home. Lean Cuisine's aren't quite the same as Mom's cooking.

Most students were just getting used to the idea that they were independent and responsible for only themselves. The freedom is incredible without parents.

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Lean Cuisines aren't quite the same as Mom's cooking

I had classes only 3 days a week.Also there was hardly any homework, only notes from lecture. Therefore it's easy to procrastinate studying only notes. The first week was definitely the hardest to study.

Partying was a non-stop affair the first week- real college fun I thought. But believe me, this was no summer camp,we had real college classes along with the fun. Classes were difficult. After the first week the "on your own" novelty wore off and we all had work to do. My Psychology class had a test covering a 100 pages every week. My Marine Biology grade was based on 3 things, a midterm, final, and a paper. I was busy for those 6 weeks. I was disappointed to find that my friends were not the ones I had classes with. I didn't really make friends with classmates. No one talks, people take notes from lecture and leave. Your friends are the ones who you live with. I think it's important for a college freshman to live in the dorms, in order to make friends and also to experience living away from home.

I'm not saying to use college as a get away from your parents, but it gave me a lot of time alone to learn about and reflect on myself without interference from my parents.

I think everyone I knew at UCSD grew from all the learning and time alone. Learning was not only in the classroom but outside of it too- real life. It could be learning about other people, or learning how to use a coffee pot. I'll remember the many No-Doze containers, runs to McDonalds, the midnight jogs on the beach, accidently setting off the fire alarm, my professor's 4 A.M. field trips to the tidepools, my summer at UCSD.

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STUDIO

A "FRESH" point of view

by Susan Chiang

"I love high school !" remarked one very enthusiastic freshman at E.C.H.S. The fact that she loved El Cerrito High so much was because of the freedom high school offers and the many activities that go on.

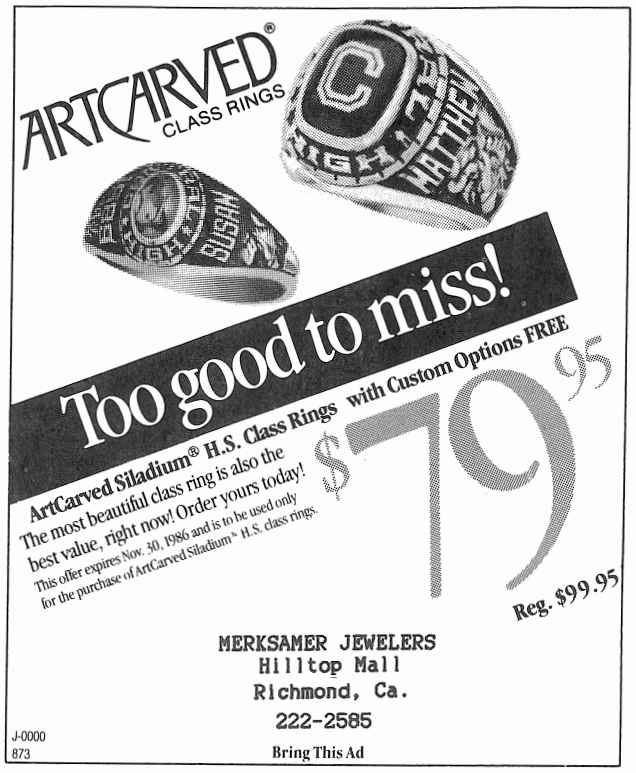
Back in junior high, there weren't as many electives as there are in high school. "You feel more mature and free because the teachers treat you as a high school student and not as a junior high student." El Cerrito High has somehow given the feeling of maturity and independance. Though E.C.H.S. can have its good points, a few freshmen also fear the negative aspects of high school. There's the issue of hazing. Some freshmen are scared of getting lost in a big school and have a desperate need of belonging. "When you're just a freshman, it's hard to feel really accepted", says one lonely freshman.

Most of us have felt that way once in our lives. We wanted to belong and not feel left out but somehow, just entering a gigantic school like E.C.H.S. can intensify that fear.

But when it comes to the people at E.C.H.S. most freshmen had positive opinions. One freshman remarked,"The people are really great. Though we're just freshmen, most of the upperclassmen are nice and polite."

However, there comes a time when these "nice and polite people"can be rough, particularly during the first two days of school.

Most of the freshmen interviewed enjoy the classes that they're in although, one or two protested about P.E. and the required uniforms. Hardly any liked the rules set by the school, because it didn't give them as much freedom as they wanted. But after all, it's just the beginning to a whole new growth process.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EC senior experiences new culture

by Tina Goldberg

"I came to Belgium knowing no one, and everyone accepted me." For senior Katrina Karkazis, the past year is filled with warm memories. Katrina has just returned from Mons, Belgium, where she served as an exchange student through the Youth for Understanding program. She is the first El Cerrito High student in 5 years to go abroad for a full year on such a program. Katrina's long stay was a unique opportunity not only to be accepted by another culture, but to teach others about American life.

Katrina's decision to go to Belgium was a "one day to the next thing. I'd always wanted to visit Europe. Then, two friends who had been exchange students told me how great it was. I thought,'I'm going.'"

In the small southwestern Belgian town of Mons, Katrina stayed with a family that included "parents, a boy my age, and a girl who was visiting the United States." Mons was once a working class town, dependant on immigrant labor for it's coal mining industry. As a result, many townspeople originally came from elsewhere. Katrina's host family were descendants of Italy and Yugoslavia.

In Mons, Katrina attended the local school. The school is much smaller than El Cerrito High, with only 800 students in the 7th through 12th grades.

At school, she took a full load of 10 classes. Each class did not meet every day, though. For example, she only attended chemistry 1 day a week.

Katrina says "bonjour."

Katrina had only taken 3 years of French when she left for Belgium. "At first, I had difficulty with the French. I had to think 5 minutes about what I wanted to say before I could say it." After about 3 months, though, Katrina was "reading books and watching movies," conversing as well as any Belgian.

Katrina did well in many of her classes. Several times, she noted, she received the best grade on her French essays, surprising everyone including herself.

What do Belgian students think of American teens? "When I first arrived, everyone was telling me that American kids are immature. They said I was immature. This was a surprise to me, because at home people are always telling me how mature I am."

"Belgian teens," she explained, "are more concerned about their public images. For example, I recently went to Nations(restaurant) with some friends. One friend squirted ketchup all over the wall and everybody thought it was funny...in Belgium, this would never have happened. There's more respect for property."

Belgians are mature, according to Katrina, but they have some odd social habits."You never go to the movie theater at night, because that's the place the couples go to make love."

There are no school clubs or school-sponsored sports, something Katrina regretted. "My family thought American schools were better socially." If teens want to get together and socialize, cafes are the first place they head towards. "Dancing is popular, too." She said Belgium gets a lot of European music in addition to British and American songs. Also, students in Belgium are more interested in culture. They like to visit museums and see plays. "Even the cool kids do."

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Perero returns

by Ellisa Sagle

"I'm glad to be back."

For Mr. Perero,a Social Science teacher,these words have significant meaning. He was transferred to Portola Junior High School in 1981 because of a drop in enrollment here at El Cerrito.He is now back with more enthusiasm than ever to face the 1986-'87 season.

Perero has a credential in Social Studies from San Francisco State University.He has been teaching now for 14 years,8 years at El Cerrito and 5 years at Portola.

Mr. Perero commented on teaching at Portola saying,"I liked it fine once I got used to the Junior High kids. I did have to spend more time with discipline,but once I learned to sit on them,they weren't that bad."

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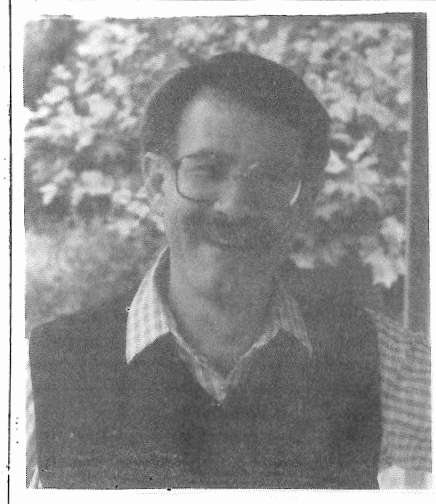


Perero, eager to teach as ever.

Football kicks off with enthusiasm

by Craig Wong

The El Cerrito Gaucho football team has been impressive in their first two games. Although they dropped a close 27-20 decision to vintage in their first game, they came back strong a week later to defeat pittsburg 25-7.

In the Gauchos non-league opener, a last minute touchdown proved to be the difference, as Vintage stopped an impressive second half comeback by the Gauchos.

The second half comeback was sparked by the duo of quarterback Brad Brown, who threw for 195 yards and three touchdowns, and wide reciever Freddie Abdullah, who hauled in two of those touchdowns, including a 31-yarder that evened the game at 20-20 in the fourth quarter.

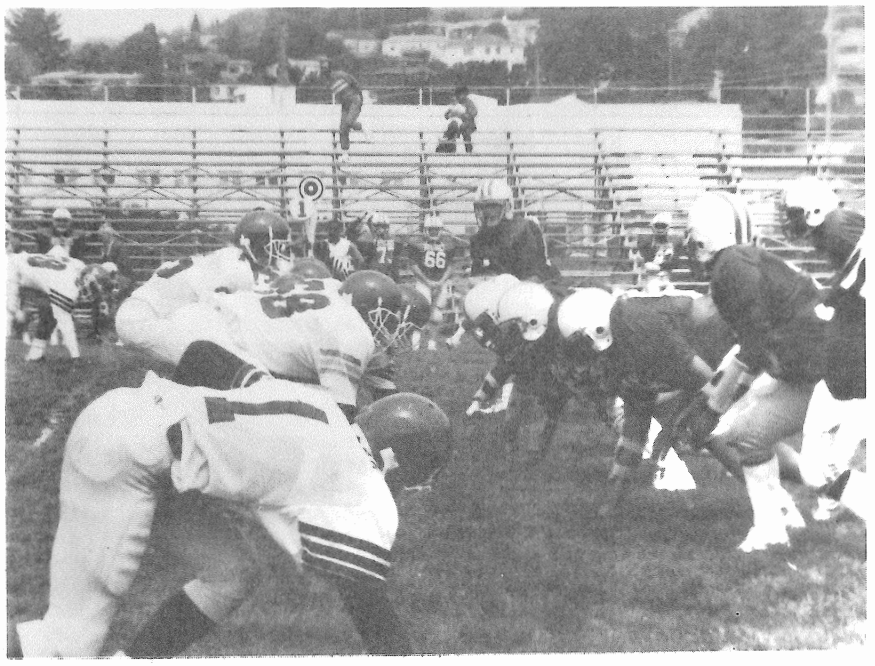
But the Gaucho defense was unable to stop the powerful Crusher offense on it's final touchdown drive, highlighted by a 37-yard kickoff return following Abdullah's touchdown. The Vintage drive was capped by a 9-yard run by Crusher fullback Steve Buccellato, who penetrated the tough Gaucho defense for 99 yards.

The Gauchos rebounded in the second game of the season, however, with an awesome 25-7 victory over the Pttsburg Pirates, last year's North Coast Section 3A champions. A combination of a stingy defense and a potent offense led the Gauchos to thier victory.

The powerful defense held the helpless Pirates to just 7 points, while forcing five fumbles and two interceptions.

The dynamic duo of Brown/Abdullah once again was the key to the offense. Brown threw for 149 yards, Abdullah on the recieving end of 116 of those yards along with a touchdown. The strong air attack opened the way for a powerful running game, led by Darnel Davidson with 78 yards and two touchdowns. Davidson's backfield teammate, Kevin Harris also contributed, scoring the Gauchos first touchdown on a 6-yard run.

Gaucho Notes: The Junior Varsity team has a 1-1 record, losing to vintage, and defeating Pittsburg, . Congratulations to Freddie Abdullah who was recently named Athlete of the Week by the local newspaper.



EC Football goes head on with opponents.

Spikers' rally falls short

by Kari Chew

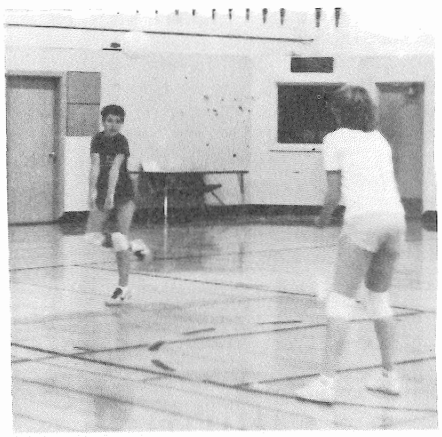
The Gaucho girl's volleyball team struggled through three tough games (15-17, 16-14, 10-15) before finally losing to Acalanes. " The first game we played really well, we were getting good blocks from Janet (Schultz) and Stacie (Espinosa) but we kept getting called for double hits, " senior setter Lisa Nakamura stated.

The Gauchos rallied back the second game to pull away from Acalanes 10-4 with good serves by senior Janet Schultz and kills by junior Patty Osorro. Acalanes rallied back slowly creeping up on the Gauchos tying the score at 12-12. On several bad serves by Acalanes, the Gauchos came back 15-14 before senior Angela DeSimoni dinked the ball making it 16-14.

In the third game the Gauchos let six points slip away before scoring their first point on a Schultz dink. Powerful serving pulled Acalanes through, allowing them to beat the Gauchos 15-10.

"We played well at times, but we had a lot of mental breakdowns," Coach Lee said. "We have the potential but we need to work a lot harder. We've got a better all-around team this year though. "

Come out and support the lady Gauchos when league play starts Thursday, October 16.



Returning seniors Angela De Simoni and Janet Shultz prepare for action.

Harriers hope for winning season

On Saturday, September 20th the El Cerrito Cross Country team competed in their first invitational of the season. The Lowell Invitational in San Francisco consisted of 8 teams from throughout the Bay Area. The mens team placed 2nd behind Berkeley. The womens team placed 3rd.

Senior Alex DaSilva raced to a 4th place award on the 2.75 mile course. Da Silva who was the 9th runner to cross the finish line ended with a 4th place award. The first 4 runners, all from Bellermine were disqualified on a techniacal rule. Steve Turnipseed finished 12th. Ray Yokoi 14th and Roland Evans 15th finished close behind Turnipseed. Chris Mc Donald 38th rounded out the varsity team. Berkeley scored 49 points to El Cerrito's 56 (lowest score wins). Junior Morgan McClarty did not compete. Coach Helen Lehman feels "with Morgan, and a couple more weeks of work Berkeley will be surprised." Lehman feels the Gauchos can win the GBAL title despite thir loss to Berkeley on Saturday.

in the girls competion Senior Veli Lehman raced away from the field to win the race by 32 seconds. Berkeley's Catherine Payne was second. El Cerrito Junior Marisa Gardella finished in 4th place. Illness and injury prevented the Gauchos from defending their Lowell Invitational Championship. Senior Debbie Binnall ran sick and Rosie Stoneall didn't run due to a foot injury. Sophomore Lori Okamura finished 14th. Noel Montoya and LaTwan Wheaton rounded out the 3rd place team. Coach Lehman feel that the Gauchos still have a chance to defend their NCS title. "We have to get everyone healthy but, it's still the beginning of the season. We'll get together at the end," Lehman said.

The Gauchos will compete tommorrow in the Westmoor Invitational in Daly City Both teams will try to defend their titles from last year.

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SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE	TIME
9/26	Washington	Away	7:30
10/3	Oakland	Home	7:30
10/10	Skyline	Home	7:30
10/17	De LaSalle	Home	7:30
10/24	Kennedy	Away	7:30
10/31	Pinole Valley	Home	7:30
11/7	Alameda	Home	7:30
11/14	Berkeley	Away	3:00

VOLLEYBALL

10/2	Alumni	Home	3:00
10/7	Carondelet	Away	3:00
10/9	Kennedy	Home	3:00
10/14	Alameda	Away	3:00
10/16	Pinole	Home	3:00
10/21	Berkeley	Away	3:00
10/23	Carondelet	Home	3:00
10/28	Kennedy	Away	3:00
10/30	Alameda	Home	3:00

DATE	OPPONENT	PLACE
X-COUNTRY		
9/27	Westmoor Invitational	Daly City
10/4	Artichoke Invitational	Half Moon Bay
10/6	Stanford Invitational	Stanford
10/11	Stevenson Invitational	Carmel
10/18	Mariner Invitational	Hayward
10/23	Alameda	Tilen Park
10/25	Soquel Invitational	Soquel H.S.
10/30	Berkeley	Tilden Park
WOMEN'S TENNIS		
10/9	Carondelet	Away
10/14	Berkeley	Home
10/16	Alameda	Away
10/21	Carondelet	Home
10/23	Berkeley	Away
10/28	Alameda	Home

Tennis opens season

by Seymour Liao

According to Coach Susan Rosenthal, the turnout for the girls' tennis team is about the same as last year. There are more than twenty girls on the team. Rosenthal said, "It is a good turnout; about all I can handle" due to the number of courts available.

In the new league, the Golden Bay Athletic League, the women will face tough competition, such as Berekely, Alameda, and Carondelet.

Rosenthal said that the El Cerrito girls' tennis team is the underdog, but they are out to achieve their personal bests and have fun. Much of the leadership will come from returning Seniors Kirsten and Shona Nelson, Yvonne Loyola and Linda Schultz.Other returning players are Laurie Somers, Kathy Gutman, and Mersina Purlantov.

In order to make money, fund raisers are being planned for the future. One idea is a huge flea market.

The team opens league on the 9th of October against Carondelet.

GBAL replaces old league

by Amy Page

The Gauchos will still face old league rival Kennedy this year in sports competition but there will be several changes from last year's action.

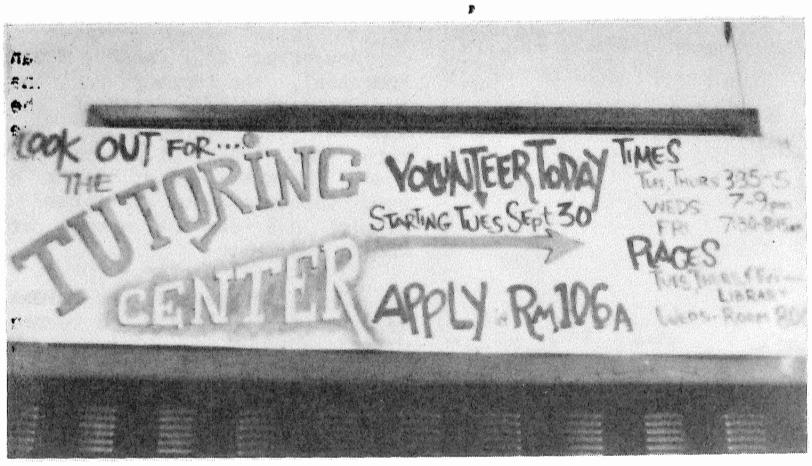
Last spring, the North Coast Section realigned all seven East Bay high school leagues. El Cerrito was placed in the 3A Golden Bay Athletic League (GBAL), along with former Richmond Berkeley Athletic League (RBAL) teams Kennedy, Pinole Valley, and Berkeley plus new additions Alameda, De La Salle and Carondelet.

De Anza was the only team from the RBAL that was moved to a new league. The Dons will compete in the 2A Foothill Athletic League.

Alameda was brought in from the former Alameda County Athletic League. De La Salle, an all boys' school, came in from the Catholic Athletic League. Carondelet, its sister school, will play against the girls.

The NCS broke up old leagues and formed new ones in an effort to create leagues of equal sizes and to match up schools by student population.

Tutors resume work



by Jonathan Bradley

The Tutoring Center opens next week for its second year of operation helping students.

Mr. Al Miller, the director, feels the center will be running as smoothly as last year but it will have a few additions.

Like last year, the center will offer help in many subjects ranging from chemistry to history. Tutoring will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, Wednesday nights, and Monday mornings.

Contrary to popular belief you don't have to be a straight-A student to be a tutor.A teacher recommidation and confidence in your abilities is all that is needed.

Miller encourages students to tutor because he feels that they can relate to each other better. Students that have a hard time asking teachers for help, feel more comfortable among their peers.

The attendance policy will be different this year. Last year 200 students signed up to be tutored but only 60 students came weekly, and the students that didn't show up kept students wanting to get into the program on a waiting list. To help the attendance problem Miller is going to notify parents when students are continually absent or if they drop out of the program.

This year Miller is hoping to make tutoring availble for students who can't make the regular sessions because of athletics or a job.

Students who want to tutor or be tutored should go to room 106A and applications will be available.

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Math teachers

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Huber's goals for the year are: in his math classes, to complete the book. In his English class, he wants to establish a high degree of writing, and for basketball, which he is especially looking foward to, Huber would like to make the Gauchos league champs.

The second of our new math teachers is Ms. Hataye. Hataye feels right at home already because she happens to be an El Cerrito alumni from the class of 1966. After graduating from El Cerrito, she attented U.C. Berkeley where she majored in Math for Teachers and minored in history. Hataye also has administrative credentials from Berkeley. Before coming to teach at E.C.H.S. she was at Juan Crespi Junior High teaching math and computers. For Hataye the change from junior high to senior high is an enjoyable one.

Hataye feels that students should be challenged and their minds stretched. She wants to offset the bad reputation that math has and let people know that it can even be fun. This year she intends to help more students enjoy math.

An interesting hobby that Hataye has is making Japanese dolls. Also, as she said with a laugh and a smile she enjoys reading her "Trashy Romance Novels".

Record Banning

CONTINUED

believe these views should not be expressed. So, they try to ban it.

What right do these people have? Who gave them the power to decide what type of music we are allowed to listen to

Rating and banning records are all forms of unfair censorship, and censorship are forms of a totalitarian life. If recording censorship occurs it will be the first step towards total censorship of anything that certain people do not like. This can not be in the best interests of anyone.

Perero

CONTINUED

Perero is an avid tennis player and bike rider and is known to be a very good cartoonist. Fortunately for the Social Studies department, he is also a very organized person.

Mr. Rossi, an old collegue of Mr. Perero's and chairman of the Social Studies department for El Cerrito says,"We're real excited to have him back. Perero is an experienced teacher. He has taught here before so he knows the American Experience class well. It just makes it easier for the El Cerrito staff because now we don't hve to train another teacher. And the students like him. We've been trying to get him back for years."

Exchange student Katrina

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Of all her memories, Katrina said she will probably treasure most the time she spent with her host family. In Belgium, family relationships are important. She fondly remembers her Christmas there. "At Christmas, each child receives just one big gift. The emphasis isn't on gift-giving, but on the family gathering. It is not like in America, where you start shopping for gifts in October."

During her stay in Belgium, she also visited France, London, and Italy. She liked the Italians. "Even though I stayed in Belgium for a year, Italy is like my life," she said, referring to the Italian sunny climate lifestyle.

Katrina's complaints? "Potatoes at every damned dinner," and "I had to buy 3 winter coats,"were her worst remarks.

Katrina had a hard time generalizing American for her Belgian friends. "At first, they thought Americans were obnoxious, and were all against communism. "I had to keep telling them that America is like going from the tip of Spain to Moscow. There are so many different cultures, especially in the Berkeley area, that you can't generalize."

After her stay in Belgium, Katrina has much to reflect upon. A main difference she noticed was the absence of cliques among Belgian teens. "After my experience, I would tell American teens not to be afraid to be themselves."

When asked if she would return to visit, Katrina responded immediately. "I'm going next summer, definitely. I also want to visit Italy...and Greece...because I'm Greek."

Changes

CONTINUED

new teachers are Ann Kennedy and Clara Wood. In the Math Department are Diane Lavin and Marcia Hataye. Constance Perry and Linda Roby joined the Spanish Department. In the Science Department are Larry Richardson and Tina Stanford. Jim Perero joined the Social Science Department. And, versatile Chris Huber teaches Math, English, and P.E.